

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent, comprising:
2 a stent body;
3 a bio-absorbable material associated with said body; and
4 closure means for blocking blood flow past said stent when implanted in a vein.
- 1 2. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said stent body is generally tubular.
- 1 3. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said stent body is generally
2 cylindrical.
- 1 4. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said bio-absorbable material is
2 provided by a material used to form said stent body.
- 1 5. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said bio-absorbable material
2 comprises polylactic acid.
- 1 6. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a
2 drawstring closure system at one end of said stent body.
- 1 7. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a
2 drawstring closure system having a pair of drawstring ends.
- 1 8. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a
2 closed end wall associated with said body.
- 1 9. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means comprises a
2 closed end wall mounted on said body.

1 10. A stent in accordance with claim 1 wherein said closure means is provided by
2 said stent body having a generally solid interior portion.

1 11. A method for treating a varicose vein, comprising:
2 introducing a temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent to an implantation site
3 proximate to or above a varicose vein to be treated, said stent comprising:
4 a stent body;
5 a bio-absorbable material associated with said body; and
6 closure means for blocking blood flow past said stent when implanted in a vein;
7 deploying said stent against a vein wall at said implantation site so as to block
8 blood flow past said stent; and
9 allowing said stent to form a blockage at said implantation site as said stent is
10 absorbed.

1 12. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a
2 deep venous system approach.

1 13. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via
2 cephalic vein approach.

1 14. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a
2 superficial venous system approach.

1 15. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a
2 sheath introducer.

1 16. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced via a
2 sheath introducer and a guide wire.

1 17. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is introduced by way of
2 magnetic guidance.

1 18. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is deployed using a
2 balloon catheter.

1 19. A method in accordance with claim 11 wherein said stent is deployed using a
2 balloon catheter and manipulation of said closure means.

1 20. A temporary absorbable venous occlusive stent, comprising:
2 a stent body comprising a bio-absorbable material; and
3 a closure configuration associated with said stent body for blocking blood flow
4 past said stent when implanted in a vein.